



Testimony to the Public Health Committee

Submitted by Mag Morelli, President, LeadingAge Connecticut

March 5, 2014

Regarding

HB 5383, An Act Concerning Screening Protocols for Urinary Tract Infections

LeadingAge Connecticut is a membership organization representing over 130 mission-driven and not-for-profit provider organizations serving older adults across the continuum of long term care, services and supports and including non-profit nursing homes and senior housing.

On behalf of LeadingAge Connecticut, I would like to submit brief comments on HB 5383, An Act Concerning Screening Protocols for Urinary Tract Infections and offer the Committee our assistance as you consider this proposal.

LeadingAge Connecticut members are currently working with the Department of Public Health and Qualidigm on a quality initiative focused on the reduction of urinary tract infections and antibiotic stewardship in the nursing home setting. This initiative includes a standard protocol for screening of urinary tract infections that they are following. This is a timely and important initiative that will improve resident care.

While we are appreciative of the legislative support for this quality initiative and do not oppose the bill, we do question whether it is appropriate to place such specific health care protocol requirements into statute.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit our comments. Please let me know if we can be of any assistance to the Committee as you review this proposal.

Mag Morelli, President

